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*Stockholme, Decemb. 6.*

WE are told that the King, after an absence of three or four years, is coming hither, but that he means to make no long stay, intending to consummate his Marriage at *Helmstadt*. There is a design to restore the alienated Crown Lands; but it will meet with great difficulty; for all the Nobility is concerned (there being few or none that have not received considerable Donations from the Crown) to oppose it. The last week died *Gustavus Soap* a Senator. The number of the Senate is at present but 26, which not many years since was 40.

*Hamburg, Jan.* 5. The Bishop of *Osnabrug* succeeds his Brother the Duke of *Hanouer*, by virtue of an Agreement between them, in all his Territories. The Dutchies of *Bremen* and *Verdun* will be now suddenly restored to the Suedes, who, as well as the French, are raising men in these parts. They take into their service all the Officers which the Elector of *Brandenburg* disbands.

*Strasburg, Jan.* 1. The French have already executed several places in *Brisgow*, who are wanting in the payment of the Contributions by them required, and will do the like with the rest, if speedy satisfaction be not given them, but the poor Countrey is altogether unable to comply with their excessive demands. The French have likewise set the Countrey of *Wirtemberg* under Contribution. There has been a meeting of the Protestant Cantons at *Arau*, and among other things they resolved to send Deputies to the French Ambassador, Monsieur *de Gravelle*, who resides at *Solorburne*, to let him know that they were very much concerned at what had lately happened at *Geneva*, and that they were afraid lest the King, being not rightly informed, might resent the same; and therefore to pray the said Ambassador, to represent their request to the Court of *France*, that things might be fairly examined, and that his Majesty would in the mean time, continue his favour to the said City; to which Monsieur *de Gravelle* answered, That he believed his Majesty would not approve the proceedings of his Resident at *Geneva* on this occasion.

*Cologne, Jan.* 9. It is said that the French will evacuate *Wesel* the 25th of this month; and that in the mean time they demand 270000 Crowns of the Country of *Cleves*. The States of this Diocess are still assembled, but have not as yet consented to the Monies our Elector demands for the raising and maintaining several Troops he thinks necessary for their common security.

*Hague, Jan.* 12. On Wednesday the States of *Holland* met again. The matter of the Alliance proposed by the French Ambassador, has been the great Subject of their Debate: It has been prosecuted by that Ambassador with all the earnestness and Art imaginable; his Excellency not having let a day pass without seeing the Pentioner and the Principal Persons in this Government; to whom he represented how highly his Master would Resent a Refusal from them. At the same time Mr. *Sidney* has not been less Active, to shew the States the ill consequences of their entring into this Allyance with *France*, and the Resentment His Majesty would have of it; which hath had that Effect, as that we have great ground to believe the States will Reject the said Allyance, though Mr. *d'Avaux* has given in another Memorial to the States much more pressing than the last was, but they know too well the Interest the King of *England* has in their Preservation, to be Frighted. Of which we may be able to Inform you further in few days.

*Amsterdam, Jan.* 11. From *Argiers* we have an account, that those Pirates had taken a Dutch Merchant Ship of 20 Guns, called the *Erf-Stadthouder*, as likewise the *St. John Baptist*, and two others, and had brought them to *Argiers*.

*Amsterdam. Jan.* 12. From the *Hague* we have an account, that the States have received Letters from their Ambassadors at *Paris*, advising, that being sent for by Monsieur *Colbert*, and going to him, he had put them in mind of the many obligations this State had to the King his Master, and of the particular evidence he gave them of his affection, in offering them a Peace, in the midst of his Conquests, upon the terms he did. That he had since expected overtures from them, of a nearer Alliance, and they being wanting therein, had himself, about 3 or 4 months ago, made an offer of the same by his Ambassador at the *Hague*: That it had been debated in the Assembly of the States of *Holland*, and that the said States had adjourned themselves without coming to any resolution therein; That the King was much surprized to find them make so small an account of an Allyance, which they themselves had sought for in 1668, by an Extraordinary Ambassador, now it was offered them. That this Alliance proposed, was only Defensive, which the States could receive no prejudice by, but much advantage. That his Majesty understood that the King of *England* did oppose the same, while he pretended to make himself an Alliance with them; and that his Majesty would have great cause to be dissatisfied with the States, if they should refuse the overtures by him made, to close with those of the King of *England*. Concluding, that if the States did delay their coming to a resolution herein, his Majesty would take it for a refusal. That however, his Majesty would keep the Peace with them, but would look upon them as a State that did not desire to live in good amity with him, and would not favour their Commerce, as he would otherwise doe.

*Swanzey, Jan.* 1. On Sunday last a Vessel, called the *Phenix* of *London*, bound for *Amsterdam* with Lemons and Oranges from *St. Remo*, was cast away within 14 miles of this Port; the men were all saved. They tell us, that between *Cape Spartel* and *Cape Feneste*, they saw six Turks Men of War, who had